

VZCZCXRO0145  
PP RUEHDBU RUEHIK RUEHPW RUEHYG  
DE RUEHBUL #1340 1090634  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 190634Z APR 07  
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7622  
INFO RUCNAFG/AFGHANISTAN COLLECTIVE  
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 5029  
RUEKJCS/OSD WASHINGTON DC  
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC  
RHMFIUU/HQ USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL  
RHEHAAA/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC  
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC  
RUCPDOG/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHINGTON DC  
RUEHPH/CDC ATLANTA GA

UNCLAS KABUL 001340

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR SCA/FO, SCA/RA, AND SCA/A  
DEPT FOR G/JLANGE AND HSUMMERS  
DEPT FOR OES  
STATE PLEASE PASS TO AID/ANE/TS ACLEMENTS  
NSC FOR AHARRIMAN  
CENTCOM FOR CG CFC-A  
OSD FOR BRZEZINSKI

E.O. 12958 N/A  
TAGS: [KFLU](#) [SOCI](#) [ECON](#) [CASC](#) [AF](#)  
SUBJECT: NEW H5N1 OUTBREAK IN KABUL

Ref: A. Kabul 827 B. Kabul 582

¶1. Three positive cases of Type A, H5N1 avian influenza in birds were found in the Karte Char and Karte Seh areas of Kabul City on April 17, 2007 and were confirmed by laboratory diagnosis at the Central Veterinary Diagnostic and Research Laboratories in Kabul. A total of eight birds were tested. Following confirmation of the diagnosis, the Ministry of Agriculture sent its teams to the area for culling in the index house and surrounding flocks. A team of emergency surveillance personnel from the Ministry of Public Health has been sent to the area for primary investigation and health education messages for the surrounding population. Follow up actions, testing and education will continue to determine the success of the containment efforts or further spread of the disease.

¶2. The major pattern of bird deaths and infections in Afghanistan appears to be primarily centered on the bird markets. The Ministry of Agriculture is making an effort to study the patterns of infection and transmission in greater detail and to provide incentives for commercial bird tradesmen to identify sick birds and seek assistance in their immediate culling and disposal.

¶3. Earlier this year, the H5N1 virus had broken out in several districts of Nangarhar, Kunar, and Kabul provinces, following infection from imported birds from Pakistan (reftels). The spread had been checked, and no new cases had been reported for several weeks. Following the pattern of infection from earlier this year and last year, further new outbreaks from the illegal importation of birds from Pakistan can be expected. As we did for the March outbreak, Embassy is preparing a warden message for the American community in Kabul and an administrative notice to the Embassy community.

WOOD